



U.S. SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20416

OFFICE OF THE ADMINISTRATOR

FEB 21 2002

The Honorable John F. Kerry
Chairman
Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Thank you for your letter of February 8, 2002, regarding the notice and comment period for the Small Business Administration's (SBA) proposed rule on the HUBZone procurement program.

The Agency appreciates your desire to afford our small business customers sufficient opportunity to comment on this proposed rule by extending the comment period. SBA will extend the comment period an additional 30 days for a total of 60 days, ending March 29, 2002. We believe that 60 days will accommodate all interested parties. SBA anticipates publishing the notice of extension in the *Federal Register* within a few days.

Thank you again for your interest and your support of small business.

Sincerely,

Hector V. Barreto
Administrator